



Making Tracks

Editor: Holly Berthold, *Metro Media Specialist*

Layout: Rene Parker, *Administrative Staff Assistant*



Making Tracks
Missouri Department of Conservation
2360 Hwy D
St. Charles, MO 63304
www.mdc.mo.gov

2004 Coming Events...

Wetlands for Kids

April 3 August A. Busch Conservation Area

Kids Fishing Fair

May 15 August A. Busch Conservation Area

Prairie Days

September 11 Shaw Nature Reserve

National Hunting & Fishing Day

September 25

Call (636) 441-4554 for more information on these events.

*If you would like to receive this newsletter in the mail,
please call (636) 441-4554.*

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Making Tracks

St. Louis Regional Calendar of Events

April 2004

Volume 04, Number 04



WHAT TO PACK?

By Janice Starke, Interpretive Programs Supervisor

If you've ever taken a camping trip with your family, you know that lots of preparation goes into it. One of the biggest tasks is packing: clothes, gear, food and more. Imagine packing for up to 45 men for a two-year trip to places you've never been! This accounts for the hectic pace at Camp Wood in April of 1804 as the Corps of Discovery prepared for its departure.

The hard-working men would need lots of food. Although they continually hunted along the way (each man ate four to six pounds of meat each day), they still packed more than seven tons of food! This included 30 gallons of wine in six kegs, 193 pounds of "portable" soup in 32 canisters, two pounds of tea, five barrels of salt pork, five barrels of flour, two-and-a-half bushels of hominy, 100 gallons of whiskey, salt, coffee, sugar, lard, dried apples and biscuits.

The expedition required lots of equipment. To prepare the food, they took six brass kettles (totaling 28 pounds), three dozen pint tumblers, a sauce pan, 24 tablespoons and a corn mill. In addition to rifles, they took 420 pounds of sheet lead, 175 pounds of gunpowder in 52 lead canisters weighing 425 pounds. Once emptied, the lead canisters were melted and molded into bullets. To build the forts, to carve the dugouts and to repair wooden items, they packed a variety of carpenters tools. They even packed a blacksmith's forge to make and repair metal objects.

The men packed many other items. Medical supplies, mathematical instruments, tent fabric, clothing, weight scales and writing instruments were taken. Indian trade goods such as scissors, fishhooks, tobacco, blankets, mirrors, locket, beads, calico shirts and thread were packed to be given as gifts and to trade for necessities.

On May 14, 1804, the Corps of Discovery left Camp Wood to begin their journey. With three boats loaded with tons of cargo, we can only hope that neither Lewis nor Clark looked back and wondered, "Did I forget something?"




2360 Hwy D, St. Charles, MO 63304

For reservations call (636) 441-4554 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From Hwy 40 take Hwy 94 south to Hwy D; turn west on Hwy D for approximately 3 miles. The area entrance is on the north side of Hwy D. Visit www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis/buschca/

3

Wetlands for Kids



Saturday10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

(All Ages) Learn all about wetlands and the critters that live there through hands-on activity stations. Stations include: Reptiles and Amphibians – touch snakes and frogs; Waterfowl – discover the ducks that live on our wetlands and try to identify them in the duckwing maze; Retrievers – watch these amazing dogs “retrieve” decoys and much more! (No reservations required.)

10

A Natural Eggs-travaganza

Saturday10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

(Ages 6-12) This Easter, why not color your eggs using nature’s very own dyes? It’s possible to come up with a great number of colors using natural ingredients that can easily be found in almost any kitchen. Naturally dyed eggs will provide the softer shades of nature. Your family can participate in a rewarding project filled with discovery and creativity. (Reservations begin March 29.)

10

Scout Discovery Table: Bird ID/ Flyways

Saturday10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

(Scouts) Birds are amazing and beautiful creatures that alert us to changes in the environment. Discover the incredible secrets of bird behavior. Learn to identify birds and discover the flyways they use during migration. **Wolves:** Birds Elective 13d; **Webelos:** Outdoor Group: Naturalist #3, #5; **Juniors:** Let’s Get Outdoors: Wildlife #3, #8. (No reservations required.)

14

Introduction to Stream Team

Wednesday2 p.m. – 4 p.m.


(Ages 10 & up) Missouri Stream Team is a state-sponsored program that allows people to adopt a stream. “Wet” your appetite for knowledge about streams and Stream Teams! Join us as the Busch Stream Team examines water quality and aquatic invertebrates in one of our streams in this two-hour program. (Reservations begin March 31.)


17

Basic Fishing

Saturday8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

(Ages 6-12) Newcomers or those with limited experience: come learn the basics to get started in the wonderful world of fishing. Topics will include fishing tackle, rods, reels, baits, casting techniques and types of fish. Then, put your new skills to the test and catch some fish. Fishing poles will be provided. (Reservations begin April 2.)





17

Amphibian Hike

Saturday7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

(Adults) We know it’s springtime when the toads and frogs start calling. Witness a “marsh concert,” presented by the toads and frogs of Missouri. Join us for an evening out on the levees at Marais Temps Clair Conservation Area. We will learn to identify toads and frogs by their calls. This program includes a two-mile hike on gravel-top levees to listen for amphibian calls. Please dress for the weather and bring a flashlight. (Reservations begin April 2.)

24

Amphibian Hike

Saturday7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

(Families) We know it’s springtime when the toads and frogs start calling. Witness a “marsh concert,” presented by the toads and frogs of Missouri. Join us for an evening out on the levees at the Marais Temps Clair Conservation Area. We’ll learn to identify toads and frogs by their calls. Program includes a two-mile hike on gravel-top levees to listen for amphibian calls. Please dress for the weather and bring a small flashlight. (Reservations begin April 9.)

24

What’s Blooming

Saturday9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.


(Families) Nature lovers look forward to this time of year because spring is the perfect season to go for a walk in the woods. Nature’s tapestry changes by the week during April. Colors abound, unshaded by the thick undergrowth that will take over by mid-summer. Join us for a walk on one of the trails and see the brilliant displays of spring wildflowers in all their glory. (Reservations begin April 9.)

26

Welcome, Hummers

Monday9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. – Noon

(Ages 3-6) What bird can fly forward, backward, straight up and straight down and even hovers like a helicopter? Come find out and make a feeder to take home to attract this special bird to your garden. (Reservations begin April 12.)



Busch Shooting Range & Training Center

2360 Hwy D, St. Charles, MO 63304

(636) 441-4554

Range Hours: October 1 – April 30, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Friday – Tuesday

Closed Wednesdays and Thursdays, state holidays and special events.

1

Game Care Before and After Taxidermy

Thursday6:30 p.m.

Come listen to taxidermist Dave Hewitt of Wolf Creek Powder Horns as he provides you the information and takes questions on how to give the taxidermist the best chance to provide you with an outstanding mount. (Reservations end March 29.)

14

Rifle Basics

Wednesday9 a.m.

The Busch staff will take you through all the basics to handle rifles and enjoy the sport. Then we move to the range to practice firing. Equipment is provided. Attendees may bring their own rifle and ammunition to the range for shooting. Participants must attend the classroom portion to take part in the range firing. Firing is optional for the participants. (Reservations end April 12.)

24

Introduction to Archery Basics

Saturday9 a.m.

This course will cover the ABC’s of the sport and conclude on the archery range with opportunities to shoot, using our equipment or your own. If bringing your own equipment, use arrows with target or field tips only. (Reservations end April 22.)

29

Orienteering (Map & Compass) Basics

Thursday6 p.m.

This seminar will cover the basics of map and compass, equipment and preparations. (Reservations end April 26.)

Jay Henges Shooting Range & Training Center

1100 Antire Road, High Ridge, MO 63049

(636) 938-9548

Range Hours: September 1 – April 30, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Wednesday – Sunday

Closed Mondays and Tuesdays, state holidays and special events.

7

Rifle Maintenance

Wednesday6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

You will learn how to clean, maintain and store your firearm. The program will discuss cleaning supplies, solvents and lubricants. We recommended you bring an apron. Firearms will be provided.

15 & 17

Basic Rifle Orientation

Thursday6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

This is an introduction to basic rifle shooting fundamentals. The course includes: firearms safety, rifle nomenclature, operations, ammunition, shooting fundamentals, live firing exercise, rifle cleaning and storage. You may bring your own firearm, ammunition, eye & ear protection or this equipment will be provided.

21

Shotgun Maintenance

Wednesday6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

You will learn how to clean, maintain and store your firearm. The course will discuss cleaning supplies, solvents and lubricants. Firearms will be provided.

22 & 24

Boy Scouts of America Rifle Merit Badge Program

Thursday6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday10 a.m. – Noon

BSA rifle merit badge curriculum will be instructed by BSA counselors/NRA Certified Rifle Instructors. Firearms, ammunition and eye and ear protection will be provided.

2751 Glencoe Road, Wildwood, MO 63038

For reservations call (636) 458-2236 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From I-44 take Hwy 109 north 4 miles to Woods Avenue; left on Woods Avenue, and then immediately right on Glencoe Road. From Manchester Road take Hwy 109 south 2 miles to Woods Avenue; right on Woods Avenue, and then immediately right on Glencoe Road. Visit www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis/

2 Amphibian Night at Forest 44

Friday 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
(All Ages) Join us as MDC Herpetologist Jeff Briggler teaches us about our native amphibians and then takes us on a very special exploratory night hike to the ponds of Forest 44. (Reservations begin March 19.)



8 Toddling into Nature: Egg-citing Eggs-travaganza

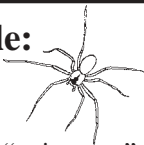
Thursday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
(Ages 3-6) Come join us this month as we explore the many animals who lay eggs! From birds to snakes, we'll take a look at a few animals up close, try our hand at making some eggs and then head out and participate in our own egg hunt! (Reservations begin March 25.)

10 Spring Wreaths for the Birds

Saturday 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
(All Ages) Feeding birds is a great way to bring wildlife closer to home. By installing a variety of feeders and providing appropriate habitat, you will be able to attract many different types of birds to watch and enjoy throughout the year. Why not decorate your backyard with some edible treats that wild birds will love? Join us in making a spring wreath for the birds. (Reservations begin March 29.)

17 Scout Discovery Table: Poisonous Things

Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
(Scouts) What is the difference between “poisonous” and “venomous”? How many different venomous snakes are there in Missouri? What does poison ivy look like? What spider has a fiddle on its back? Learn the answers to these questions and many more. **Wolves:** Outdoor Adventure elective 18g; **Webelos:** Outdoor Group: Naturalist 6; **Juniors:** Let's Go Outdoors: Wildlife #5, Plants and Animals #9. (No reservations required.)



17 Wildflower Walk

Saturday 11 a.m. – Noon
(All Ages) Warmer weather signals a great time of year to learn about wildflowers. Join us as we walk the trails of Rockwoods in search of spring wildflowers. (Reservations begin April 2.)

22 Homeschool Special: Earth Day Celebration

Thursday 10 a.m. – Noon
(All Ages) Join us in celebration of Earth Day through nature activities and crafts to help our native wildlife and plant communities. Make cool crafts and games that will help you learn how to better conserve the natural resources of Missouri. Please bring two 2-liter soda bottles! (Reservations begin April 1.)

24 Fly Tying Bluegill Discovery Table

Saturday 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
(All Ages) Learn how to tie the basic bluegill “rubber legs” pattern from our local fly tyer. Then get outdoors and enjoy Missouri's beautiful streams, ponds and lakes. (Reservations begin April 9.)

24 Green Rock Trail Hike

Saturday 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.
(Ages 12 & up) Spend a day in the forest hiking a strenuous 10-mile trail through Rockwoods Range, Greensfelder County Park and Rockwoods Reservation. Meet at Rockwoods Education Center. Bring lunch and water and please wear sturdy hiking boots. (Reservations begin April 9.)



24 Enjoying Birds

Saturday 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
(Ages 10 & up) Have you ever been curious about what kinds of birds you might see in your back garden? If you are new to birding, it can be difficult to know where to go, and where to look. We will share our knowledge and enthusiasm with you to introduce you to the basics of bird identification and use of binoculars. We will finish the afternoon by testing our new skills as we hike the trails looking for resident birds. Dress for the weather and please do not forget your binoculars. (Reservations begin April 9.)

801 Strodtman Rd., St. Louis, MO 63138

For reservations call (314) 877-6014 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From I-270 north take the Riverview Drive exit (last Missouri exit); go north approximately 2.8 miles. Riverview Drive becomes Columbia Bottom Road at its intersection with Larimore Road. The entrance is on the right-hand side. Visit www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/areas/bottom/



17 Who Lives in a Rotten Log?

Saturday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
(Ages 7-12) Take an up-close look at the weird-looking critters that live in the dark recesses of a rotten log. Discover the important role they play in the life cycle of a tree and find out how they benefit the whole forest. We will investigate how they help to recycle a tree and find out where they go after they eat themselves out of house and home, literally! (Reservations begin April 2.)

17 Amphibian Night Hike

Saturday 8 p.m. – 10 p.m.
(All Ages) Spring is here and love is in the air! At least it is for frogs and toads. Come and listen for the beautiful serenading of the American toad, gray tree frog, pickerel frog and leopard frog. Cupid may not touch your heart on this hike, but by the time we are done, you will be able to tell who is “looking for love.” Bring your flashlight and dress warmly as we explore Columbia Bottom listening to the love songs of the amphibian world. (Reservations begin April 2.)



24 Pollution Solutions: Ways to Help the Earth and Wildlife

Saturday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
(Ages 7-12) Our Earth is a great place to live! Come discover how you can help keep it that way for us and the wildlife that we share it with. We will play games and discover how to fish away water pollution, make a meal of mosquitoes without pesticides and target litter. (Reservations begin April 9.)

Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center

April 2004 Page 4

11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122

For reservations call (314) 301-1500 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From I-44 east in Kirkwood, take Watson Road, exit and turn north on Geyer Road. Follow Geyer Road 200 yards to Cragwold Road. Go 1 mile west on Cragwold Road. Visit www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/cnc/powder/

3 Scout Discovery Table: Forest Trees

Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
(All Ages) Discover the wonders of Missouri forests while working on badge activities. Designed for Brownies and Junior Girl Scouts and Webelos. **Webelos** can complete Outdoor Group: Forester #3, #4. **Brownies** can work on What's Out There?: Plants #4. **Juniors** can work on Let's Get Outdoors: Earth Connections #3, #4, #6, #8; Explore and Discover: Science Discovery #5. All are welcome and encouraged. Check it out! (No reservations necessary.)

10 Dig Dugouts?

Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
(All Ages) Do you "dig" dugouts? If so, come watch as our "crew" works on carving a log into a dugout. Using traditional hand tools we will demonstrate the techniques and methods used in the days of Lewis and Clark. Dress for the weather. (No reservations necessary.)

10 Emmenegger Hike

Saturday 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
(Ages 7 & up) Walk the main Emmenegger trail and identify wildflowers and wildlife along the way. Meet at the bridge. (Reservations begin March 27.)

14 Emmenegger Hike

Wednesday 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
(Ages 7 & up) Walk the main Emmenegger trail and identif wildflowers and wildlife along the way. Meet at the bridge. (Reservations begin March 31.)



17 Pierre Cruzatte: A Musical Journey On The Lewis And Clark Trail

Saturday 2 p.m.
(All Ages) Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center is proud to present guest performer Daniel Slosberg in his wonderfully entertaining and informative portrayal of Pierre Cruzatte, the main navigator and most esteemed musician of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Playing fiddle, jaw harp, bones, spoons and other instruments of the journey, Daniel Slosberg will take you on an unforgettable musical voyage—with stops along the way for humorous and moving stories about the expedition. Music, song and dance played an important role in the success of the expedition, not only as entertainment for the explorers, but also as a diplomatic tool among the more than 50 Native American nations they encountered. This program is co-presented by the Missouri Department of Conservation and by Young Audiences of St. Louis (www.yastl.org). (Reservations begin on March 26.)

18 How Does Your Garden Grow?

Sunday 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
(Adults) Come join us to learn about using native Missouri plants in your yard or your "country acreage." (Reservations begin April 4.)

22 Rocking Chair Story Time

Thursday 10 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. & 1 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.
(Families) Come enjoy a fun-packed time of hearing stories, using puppets and experiencing surprises galore! (No reservations necessary.)

23 HOMESCHOOL Missouri Fishes

Friday 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m..
(Families) Learn about the fishes of Missouri from our fisheries biologists and the Show Me Missouri Fish Aquarium. Check your fish identification skills using our fish maze. (Reservations begin April 9.)



24 & 25 Show-Me Missouri Fish Mobile Aquarium

Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
(All Ages) MDC's Fisheries Biologists love bringing fish to an environment where people can observe them. The exhibit features up to 70 of Missouri's native fish, representing 15 to 25 different game species in a natural setting of logs, rocks and plants. Come and see some of the more popular sport and game fish along with fish rarely seen by most people. Learn fish identification, various species=adaptations and fish ecology as well as fishing techniques. Programs are from 10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. – Noon, 1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (No reservations necessary.)

Nature in the Arts John Nilsen in Concert

*Sunday, May 9
2 p.m.*
Best for ages 12 & up

Make Mother's Day special by bringing that special Mom in your life to a solo piano performance by John Nilsen. John is currently one of the Northwest's largest-selling artists. His latest work, "Across Oregon," has made #8 on the top 100 radio chart. John is known for the intense clarity with which he is able to translate his experiences with travel, family and the outdoors into music that distinguishes him. Nilsen's music inspires us to look more carefully, to feel more deeply and to celebrate this life of ours, and all that is in it. A perfect gift for Mom!

John's CDs will be available at the concert as well as an autograph session.

(Reservations are required and begin April 20.)



George Rader, M.D., died on January 17, 2004. George was a Volunteer Naturalist for the Missouri Department of Conservation, volunteer class of 1991, at Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center. George had a boundless enthusiasm for teaching others. "Identification of Common Missouri Trees" was a very popular program which he offered at Powder Valley throughout the year. His knowledge, friendship and sense of humor will be greatly missed.



Hallway Exhibit

State Historical Society of Missouri Traveling Exhibit

Objects Worthy of Notice:

The Wildlife Encountered by the Corps of Discovery

This exhibit presents a look at the rich diversity of wildlife observed by Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark during their 1804-1806 expedition through the newly acquired and relatively uncharted Louisiana Territory. Under instructions from President Thomas Jefferson to record "objects worthy of notice," the naturalist-explorers scientifically documented 122 new species and expanded knowledge about many others. The elegant and detailed work of naturalists John James Audubon, John Woodson Audubon and Charles W. Schwartz illustrate engaging excerpts from the explorers' journals.

Exhibit Curator: Charlotte Overby
Graphic Design: Les Fortenberry, Missouri Department of Conservation

Partial funding is provided by a grant from the
U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

The *Objects of Worthy Notice* exhibit will be available for viewing the month of April during regular Nature Center hours.

Powder Valley Volunteer Milestones

Bob Anderson.....2500 hours	Bill Maass.....3200 hours	Ron Pohle.....1300 hours
Alma Dulz.....3100 hours	Tjaden Meyer.....2200 hours	Ed Witte.....2400 hours
Maury Frein.....500 hours	Tom O'Gorman.....2800 hours	